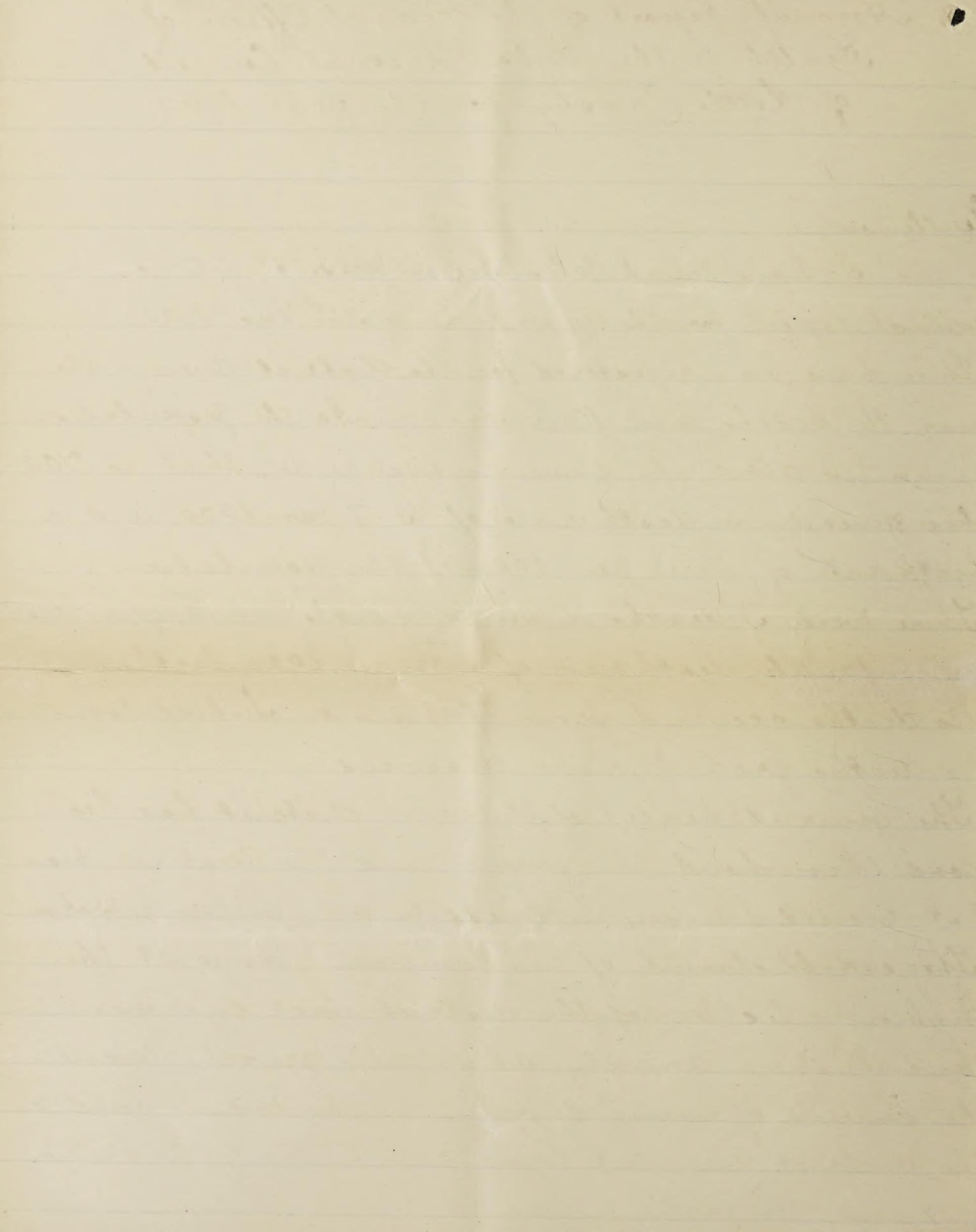


Annual report of the Medical Officer of Health to the Durban District Council of Little Crosby for the year 1900

Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in presenting to you my annual report for the year ending 31st Dec: 1900. There have been registered for the district during the year 11 Deaths and 10 Births. — As the population remains about the same as last year, that is 700 this gives us a death rate of 15.7 per 1,000, and a birth rate of 14.3 per 1,000 of the population. There were 3 deaths under 12 months, which gives us an infantile death rate of 300 per 1,000 births. No deaths occurred from Phthisis or Tuberculosis No deaths from Gynaecological diseases. — The general health of the whole district has been good throughout the year, — and the district was not visited by any sickness in an epidemic form. The establishment of a Germanry Camp at the Hightown section of the district last summer caused some anxiety, as it very greatly taxed the sources of water supply, as the mains laid in the district were not competent to meet the extra demand; the water engineers remedied the defect



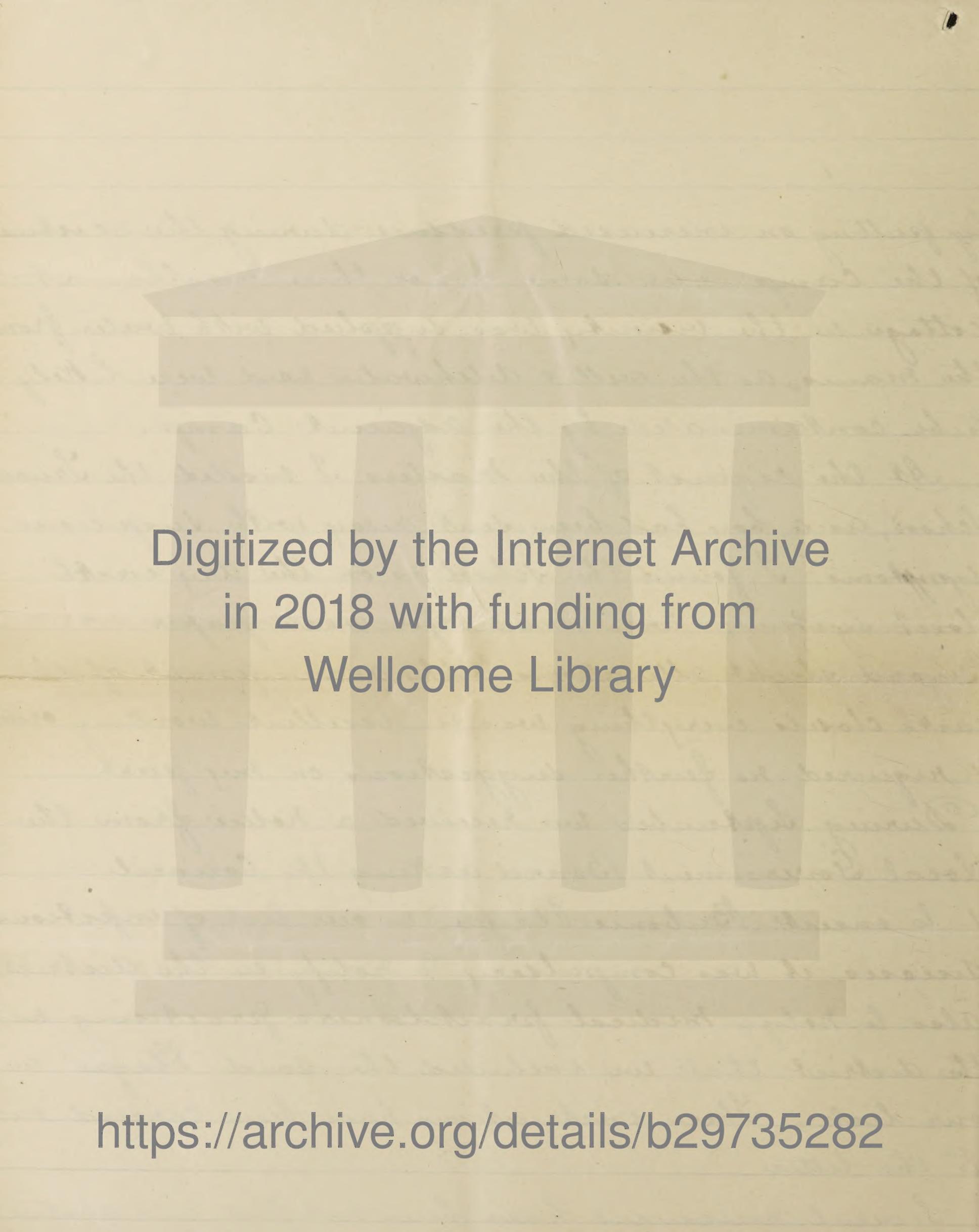
by putting on increased pressure during the existence
of the camp: - i.e. some two or three months. A
cottage in the vicinity was supplied with water from
the mains, as the well & ditchwater used were likely
to be contaminated by the adjacent camp.

At the request of the masters I visited the Truant
School, as a boy had been sent away with suspicious
symptoms. I found the school is on the dry earth
closet system, - with drains for waste paper. -
Beyond slight alterations to the arrangement of the
earth closets, everything was in excellent working order
& required no further suggestions on my part.

During September we received a notice from the
Local Government Board asking the Council:-

1. to insert 'Bubonic Plague' in our list of infectious
diseases, it was compulsory to notify in the district,
also to notify medical practitioners practising in
the district that we included the said 'Plague' in
our list. These instructions have been carried out
to the letter.

Several nuisances have been notified and abated



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during the year, and cases of obstructed water courses have been attended to.

The district has enjoyed its immunity from infectious & contagious diseases, similar to last year which I take it, speaks well for the general sanitary condition of the district.

I might suggest 1. that the ashpits should be emptied a little more frequently & systematically
2. that a larger supply of disinfectants. e.g. Calverts Carbolic powder - Leyes' fluid & sulphate of Iron Crystals - be kept in stock for immediate use if required:— Also in view of the rapid population increase in the neighbouring sanitary districts, & the possible spread of contagious & infectious diseases to our own district, it would be prudent to come to some understanding with the Linacre Infectious hospital, or to have some dwelling isolated & set apart for such cases.—

I remain Gentlemen

Your Obedient servant
Edward Burford M.D.
Medical Officer of Health -

